

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 AGR-05 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07

LAB-04 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 CEA-01

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R 080545Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7547

INFO USMISSION USUN

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 9361

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, PK, G-77, CIEC,

SUBJECT: THIRD WORLD ECONOMIC SUMMIT: BHUTTO ISSUES

APPEAL

REFERENCE: ISLAMABAD 7680

1. ON SEPTEMBER 5, ALL EMBASSIES IN ISLAMABAD WERE SUMMONED TO LISTEN TO A 14-PAGE SIGNED ARTICLE BY PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO CALLING FOR A THIRD WORLD ECONOMIC SUMMIT TO LIBERATE THE UNDERPRIVILEGED PEOPLES OF ASIA, AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA FROM INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC "EXPLOITATION AND OPPRESSION." THE ARTICLE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY GIVEN FRONT PAGE TREATMENT AND HEAVY COVERAGE IN THE GOP-OWNED AND CONTROLLED PRESS. THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT IS BEING SENT UNDER A COVERING AIRGRAM.

2. THE PRINCIPAL POINTS MADE IN THE BHUTTO STATEMENT WERE AS FOLLOWS:

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(A) THE PRINCIPAL ISSUE FACING THE WORLD IS THE DIVISION BETWEEN THE RICH AND THE POOR. WHAT IS NEEDED IS A REDISTRIBUTION OF ECONOMIC POWER WHICH ALONE CAN PREVENT STRIFE AND UPHEAVALS.

(B) THE SUMMIT WILL SUPPLEMENT THE EXISTING FRAGMENTED AND OFTEN INEFFECTIVE FORUMS DEALING WITH THE SUBJECT, SUCH AS UNCTAD, THE NON-ALIGNED GROUP, CIEC, ETC. THE NON-ALIGNED GROUP (IN WHICH PAKISTAN IS NOT A MEMBER) IS PARTICULARLY SINGLED OUT AS NOT ADEQUATE TO THE TASK. BHUTTO STATES IT IS WHOLLY UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT EXISTING INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO RECTIFY THE ECONOMIC IMBALANCE.

(C) THE BASIC EXISTING INJUSTICE IS THAT THE PRINCIPAL RESOURCES OF MANY COUNTRIES ARE "CONTROLLED, CHEAPLY BOUGHT AND EXTRAVAGANTLY USED FOR THE GROWTH AND LUXURY OF THE RICH COUNTRIES." IT IS WRONG FOR THE "OPULENT AND THE POWERFUL TO MAINTAIN THEIR DOMINANCE ON THE BASIS OF THEIR WEALTH AND TECHNOLOGY." THE EXAMPLE OF THE OIL COUNTRIES BANDING TOGETHER SHOWS WHAT CAN BE DONE TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIC UPLIFT.

(D) A WAY HAS TO BE FOUND TO IMPROVE THE TERMS OF TRADE FOR THE THIRD WORLD, TO REMOVE THE INEQUITIES OF QUOTAS AND TRADE RESTRICTIONS OF THE AFFLUENT COUNTRIES, AND TO RESCUE THE PARALYZING BURDEN OF EXTERNAL DEBT WHICH IS LARGELY A RESULT OF UNEQUAL TRADE AND EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE POOR AND RICH.

(E) THE SUMMIT WILL BE A LANDMARK CONFERENCE COMPARABLE TO THE BANDUNG CONFERENCE OF MORE THAN TWO DECADES AGO.

(F) NOWHERE IN THE STATEMENT IS A DATE OR VENUE SET FOR THE CONFERENCE. (AN EARLIER STATEMENT SAID THAT IT MIGHT TAKE A COUPLE YEARS TO ORGANIZE.)

2. COMMENT: BHUTTO'S APPEAL FOR A SUMMIT IS ONLY PARTIALLY MOTIVATED BY A CONCERN TO RIGHT THE ALLEGED CONFIDENTIAL

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IMBALANCE BETWEEN THE RICH AND THE POOR. IT IS ALSO VERY MUCH MIXED IN WITH BHUTTO'S PERSONAL DESIRE TO ACHIEVE WORLD STATURE AND TO PUT PAKISTAN IN THE FOREFRONT OF WORLD AFFAIRS. AS REPORTED IN REFTTEL, IT IS MUCH RELATED TOO TO PAKISTAN'S SENSITIVITIES ABOUT BEING EXCLUDED FROM THE PRESENT PRINCIPAL THIRD WORLD FORUM, THE NON-ALIGNED GROUP.

3. IT IS CLEAR FROM THE RHETORIC IN THIS AND EARLIER
GOP STATEMENTS THAT THE ULTIMATE ECONOMIC AIM HERE
IS TO BRING ABOUT EQUALITY IN LIVING STANDARDS BETWEEN
THE DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING WORLD. WHILE BHUTTO'S
STATEMENT AND EARLIER ONES HAVE ALWAYS STRESSED THAT
WHAT IS NOT WANTED IS CONFRONTATION OR CLASS WAR WITH
THE DEVELOPED WORLD, IN FACT THE IMPLICIT IDEA BEHIND
THE SUMMIT IS TO MOBILIZE THE THIRD WORLD TO FORCE A
REDISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH.
BYROADE

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